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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Agency Views on Proposed Legislation

1. This memorandum transmits a proposed reply to a letter from the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee dated 9 April 1971 requesting our views on S. J. Res. 83, "To provide for a study and investigation of the effectiveness of the interdiction bombing by the United States in Southeast Asia," (Tab A), introduced by Senator Proxmire (D., Wis.).

2. The resolution establishes a commission, to be appointed from Congress, Government and private life, to study the costs and effectiveness of interdiction bombing of the North Vietnamese, and to make recommendations to assist in formulating future U.S. policy and long-term postwar planning in Southeast Asia.

3. The proposed reply takes no position on the merits of the resolution, but states our concern about the authority of the commission to acquire sensitive intelligence information. The resolution calls on the Secretary of Defense to make available North Vietnamese prisoners and defectors for questioning, to permit on-site inspection and reconnaissance of target areas, and both the Secretary and the DCI to provide information and make personnel available for questioning.

4. It is recommended that you sign the attached reply to Chairman Stennis requesting an amendment along the lines suggested.

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5. When signed, this reply (Tab B) will be forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget for clearance.

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John M. Maury  
Legislative Counsel

CONCUR:

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Deputy Director for Plans

5 May 71  
Date

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Deputy Director for Science and Technology

13 May '71  
Date

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Deputy Director for Intelligence

14 May 71  
Date

*Acting*

Attachments

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